# HONZUKI NO GEKOKUJOU

by Miya Kazuki & Suzuka

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## Honzuki no Gekokujou ch04

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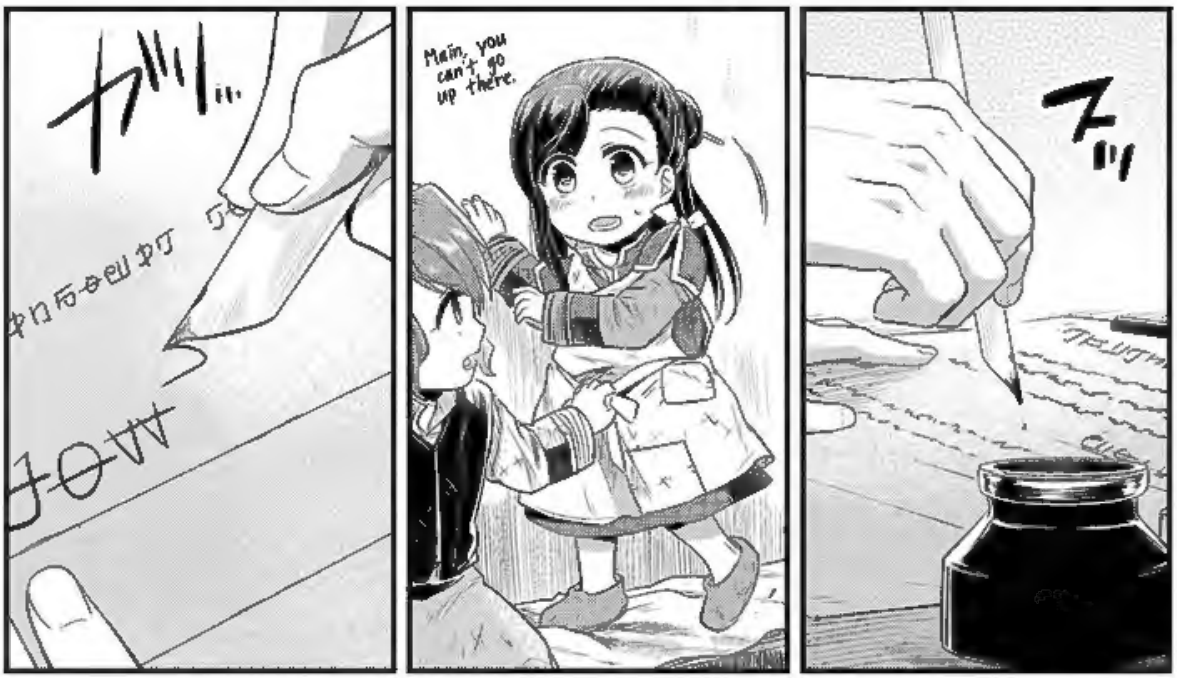
...Parchment?!
Chapter 4
Respect For The Egyptian Civilization


Main, you can't go up there.

There's someone here who can write letters!!
Oohhh! Letters!
The first civilized person in this world!!
What's wrong, Main?
You shouldn't bother Otto while he's working.
Mmgh.
Dad.
A little closer...

This!
ちがい
ちがい
What is it?
Ohh, you mean this paper?
It's parchment.
It's paper made of goat or sheep skin.
And this black thing?
That's ink and a pen.
Hmm, so that's how they pronounce "paper" here.
I see why Turi didn't understand it in Japanese.
But now I can make a book, no problem!

Hey, Dad...
I want this!!
All-Out Begging Pose
NO.
An immediate answer?!
がぁーっ

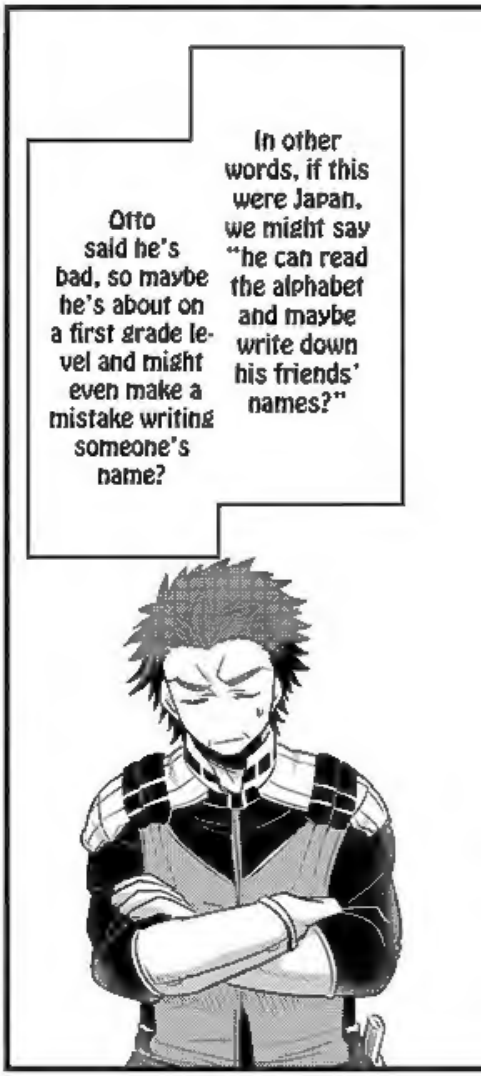
But I'm not going to back down here!
I want to write things like this.
So I want it.
Please!
NO, YOU CAN'T!
N...
FIRST OF ALL, YOU CAN'T EVEN WRITE, RIGHT MAIN?
Then teach me! I'll learn!

Ugh...
Get this for me if I learn, okay?
Haha, teach her...?
Ha ha.
Weren't you bad at writing, leader?

I can basically hear the names of people and write them down.
Hmm...

...Eh?
Dad, you can't write?
I-I can read and write some.
I work with documents too, so I have to be able to read, but I don't need to know any letters outside of that.

Come on, come on, don't look at your dad like that.
... Ahh, this is the problem with not having a school in a place like this...


Otto said he's bad, so maybe he's about on a first grade level and might even make a mistake writing someone's name?
In other words, if this were Japan, we might say "he can read the alphabet and maybe write down his friends' names?"

But when it comes to writing reports for big incidents that involve nobles, that's for the knight class.
It's the soldier's duty to maintain public order in town...

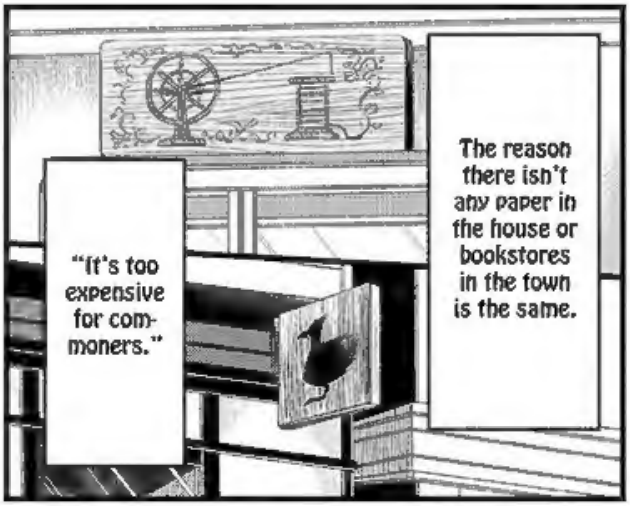
Yup
Yup
Small incidents end with an oral report and there aren't many situations where we dealwith writing.
It's enough to be able to write people's names.

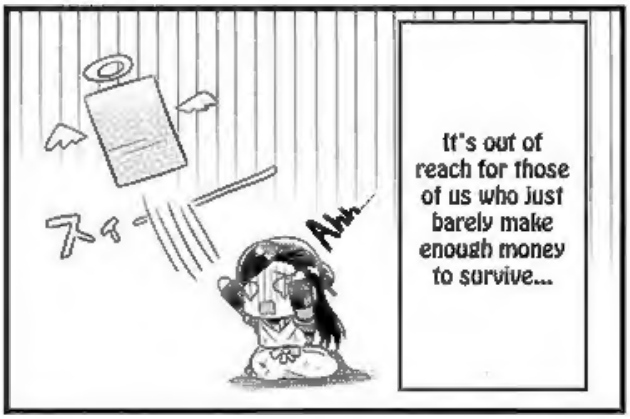
I want this.
Get it for me...

...Hmm...
Then, oh amazing Dad...

...A MONTH'S PAY?

...
One month's pay would fly out the window for a single sheet. Who's going to give that to a kid?


"It's too expensive for commoners."
The reason there isn't any paper in the house or bookstores in the town is the same.


Ahh...
It's out of reach for those of us who just barely make enough money to survive...

ばっ
...Wait, is parchment that expensive?
Yeah, that's not something to just hand out to anyone!!

If you want to learn to write, how about using a slate?
Should I give you the one I used to use a long time ago?

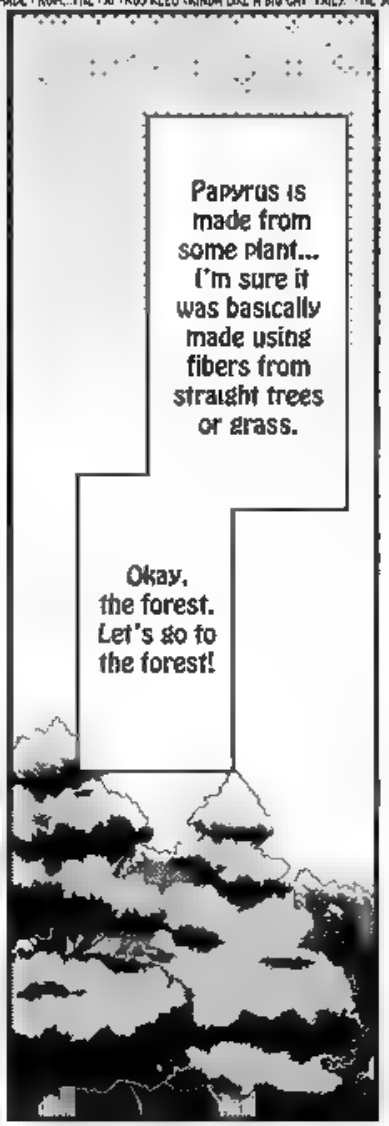
For starters, they don't sell paper in stores that commoners can enter.
しょんぼり

Thanks, Otto!
Please teach me how to read and write!
ぱあっ
CAN YOU?! I'M SO GLAD!
Then I'll bring it the next chance I get.
Ahaha.
I'll be counting on you!
キラ
キラ

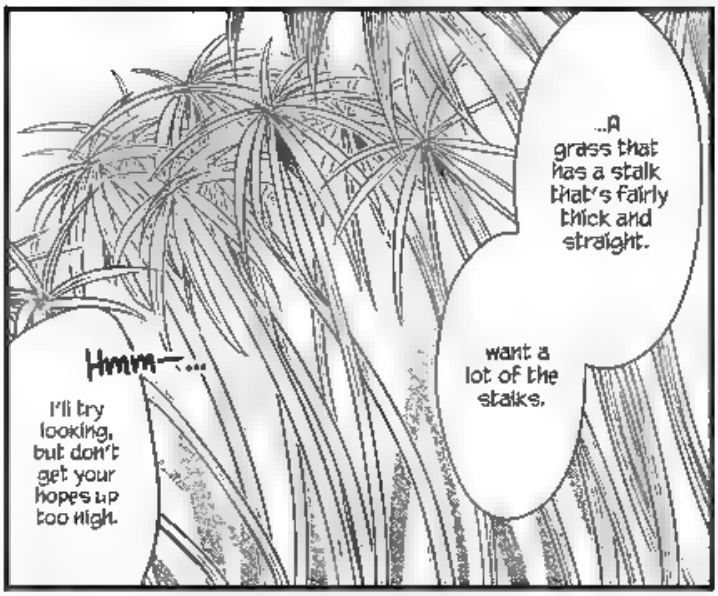
...Then what do I do now?
Paper's also too expensive and I can't buy any.
Books are too expensive and I can't buy them.
I can just start by making paper on my own!
... Ugh, I feel like I'm moving backwards...
...No, no.
I won't back down. I won't lose.

ハッ
My passion for books is greater than this!
I'll start by doing what I can.
But that required a bunch of machines so I have no choice but to do it by hand...
I did read a book about making paper.
Recycled paper
牛乳
Even during "Urano's" time, the only paper I made was pretty much recycled paper from milk cartons.
What did they do before the age of machinery...?
Something simpler...
It's absolutely impossible for me to cut down trees with these.
... These unreliable hands.

PR/N: PAPYRUS IS MADE FROM...THE PAPYRUS REED (KINDA LIKE A BIG CAT TAIL). THE SOFT MIDDLE FIBERS.


Papyrus is made from some plant... I'm sure it was basically made using fibers from straight trees or grass.
Okay, the forest. Let's go to the forest!

Once we get to the forest, we collect firewood and search for fruit.
Well, you can't even walk to the gate. The forest would just be impossible.
Wh...Why not...?
So you can't rest no matter how tired you are.
And you have to get back to the gate before it closes,
On the way back, you have to carry a heavy load, even if you're tired.
And you can't climb trees either, right?
Not just a bit!
You're right it would be a bit difficult for me as I am now...
See? It's impossible for you, right Main?


...A grass that has a stalk that's fairly thick and straight.
want a lot of the stalks.
Hmm—...
I'll try looking, but don't get your hopes up too high.

Besides, it's almost winter so there are less things we can gather from the forest...
What is it you want?
There are hardly any merrill left

Thanks, Turi!
Ehehe—
You really are a good older sister.
Oh you, getting carried away.

Stalks...? Well, that's fine.
You're going out too, Main, so get ready.

Then, I'll be back!
Okay, be careful.
Don't forget the stalks!

Ah, Mom's home.
ガチャ

Eh? Where to?
I have work today,
And it seems like your fever's gone, so I'm going to leave you with Gerda today.
Then I'll leave her to you, Gerda.
Of course.
Come here, Main.
It seems old lady Gerda works as a babysitter.
Ah
Are you saying I'm pretty much one of these kids?!
They don't trust me...!!

Goo
HEY, THAT'S DIRTY!
Ah!
Old lady Gerda doesn't work....!!
Oh my.
THAT'S DIRTY! DON'T PUT DIRTY TOYS IN YOUR MOUTH!
Ah
Now, now.
WHY DID YOU DO THAT?!
YOU CAN'T HIT SOMEONE OUT OF NOWHERE!

AH!
OLD LADY GERDA! THIS KID WET HIMSELF...
Okay, okay.
Eh... That's it?
Ahh, someone hurry and come pick me up...!!
You can't call this baby-sitting!!
Ah
Ah

TURI!!
Main, Turi's here to pick you up.
WAH!
What's wrong, Main?
Well, it's a world where it's normal to throw waste out the window...
Even though I want to do something about it, it's too big of a problem for me.
...Is that how things are in this world?

Were you lonely because it's been a while since you were left here?
ポン
...I'll do what I'm capable of doing.
...It's nothing.

This works for a stalk that's thick and straight, right?
Eh? You guys helped out too, Ralph?
Really?!
We brought the stalks I promised you.
Right, right.

Cluck
Ralph's place raises chickens, so they need a lot of feed to pass the winter, right?
So in exchange for finding the grass, I had them give me the stalks.
Hmm?
Turi's the one who helped us out.

Yup.
I-I see!
Thanks Ralph, Lutz!

Now...
I'll make some imitation papyri with these.

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